## Message from the Administrator

Dear Prospective Motorist:

Did you know that every 14 minutes someone dies in a motor vehicle crash, every 10 seconds an injury occurs, and every five seconds a motor vehicle crash occurs? For most new drivers, getting a Maryland driver's license is one of the first steps toward transportation independence. This is an exciting time and also a very dangerous time for any new driver. It is important to remember that driving is a privilege and you play a responsible role in ensuring that all drivers remain safe on our highways and roadways.

## Take the High Road: Share the Road - It Belongs to Everyone

As motorists, we share the road with drivers of various ages, skill levels, personalities, and habits. We also share the road with pedestrians, bicyclists, motorcyclists, and vehicles of varying sizes. Understanding the unique limitations and challenges for the various road users we encounter every day will enable us to be more respectful and considerate of our roadway companions and instill positive attitudes towards those who use various modes of transport.

Every day, thousands of drivers make the decision to multi-task, speed, tailgate, run red lights and take their aggression out on other road users, putting themselves and others sharing the road at risk. Driving a motor vehicle on public roadways is a serious responsibility. It is our commitment at the Motor Vehicle Administration to promote driver safety and to carry out our regulatory responsibilities in keeping our highways safe. Therefore, be sure to keep in mind the key message that all road users have something in common; we are on this road together. It is everyone's responsibility to take the high road and share the road.

Do you know how to be a safe driver? After reading this manual, test YOUR knowledge of the rules of the road and take our Online Driver Test Tutorial located on the MVA website, www.mva.maryland.gov

Maryland Motor Vehicle Administrator